2006 SWIFT Tour Program Managers

Juan E. Figueroa, Ph.D.

Dr. Figueroa joined the National Science Foundation in July 2002 as a Program Manager in the Small Business Innovation Research Program after spending over twenty years in R&D management positions in the electronics and communications industries. His last position before joining NSF was Product Development Consultant for Material Sensing and Instrumentation, Inc. (MSI), an SBIR participant company.

Prior to MSI Dr. Figueroa was Director of Strategic Development and Project Management for the Home Communications Division of Ericsson, a multinational telecommunications and consumer electronics company. His first appointment after graduate school was with Bell Laboratories as a Member of the Technical Staff in Murray Hill, New Jersey and Allentown, Pennsylvania working in the development of microprocessor, CMOS and networking technologies. After 13 years with Bell Labs Dr. Figueroa led the operations of a high-speed networking equipment design startup company.

Dr. Figueroa received his Ph.D. in Physics from the State University of New York at Binghamton. A native of Puerto Rico, Dr. Figueroa received his B.S in Physics from the University of Puerto Rico.

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Jo Anne Goodnight

Ms. Goodnight currently holds the position as the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program Coordinator of the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Public Health Service. Prior to joining the Office of Extramural Research in 1999, she served in positions encompassing research, program administration and program management. During her 25 years of Government service she has held positions in the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the Food and Drug Administration, and now the NIH. As part of her Virginia Tech education (1978-1983), she spent four years conducting research as a Cooperative Education student at the USDA's Animal Parasitology Institute. While at NIH, she has been a part of the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Intramural Research Program as a research scientist (1989 -1994) and the NCI's Extramural Research Program (1994 – 1999). As an intramural scientist, she published over 20 studies about the selective involvement of Protein Kinase C in differentiation and neoplastic transformation. She joined the NCI's Extramural Research Program in 1994 where she served as a Special Assistant to the Director, Division of Cancer Biology and Program Director for SBIR/STTR grants that supported studies in the field of cancer biology, cancer genetics, and cancer immunology as well as the SBIR/STTR Program Policy Coordinator for the entire NCI. She was appointed as the NIH SBIR/STTR Program Coordinator in 1999 where she continues today. She was intimately involved in the development and implementation of the NIH SBIR/STTR Fast-Track Program and continues to develop other programs that assist the small business community in commercialization of their technologies. She has been an invited participant in numerous SBIR/STTR Conferences to discuss funding opportunities for small businesses through the NIH. She also has provided written and oral testimony at Congressional hearings related to the reauthorization of the SBIR and STTR Programs. Ms. Goodnight has received several national awards including NIH Director's Awards, NIH Merit Awards, and the Small Business Administration Tibbetts Award. Ms. Goodnight received a Bachelor of Science degree in Microbiology from Virginia Tech in 1983.

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Larry Pollack

Mr. Pollack has more than twenty years of experience in field and laboratory chemical analysis and environmental sample collection. He is employed by the Defense Threat Reduction Agency (DTRA) in the Joint Science and Technology Office for Chemical and Biological Defense (JSTO-CBD). As part of his acquisition and technology responsibilities, Mr. Pollack is the Technical Program Manager for the Chemical and Biological Defense SBIR program. The CBD SBIR Program is unique, as it does not represent an agency, a DoD Service, or a DoD Laboratory. It is the only SBIR program whose mission is to elicit innovative solutions from the small business community to fill technology gaps for a specific program. The Chemical and Biological Defense Program was established by DoD to provide state-of-the-art defense capabilities to allow military forces of the United States to operate and successfully complete missions in chemical and biological warfare environments.

Mr. Pollack received his Master of Science Degree in 1985 from the Florida Institute of Technology and a Bachelor of Science degree in 1980 from the University of Maryland at College Park. He enjoys travel, especially to warm climates preferably where he can SCUBA dive. When not in the ocean, he serves as a volunteer SCUBA diver at the National Aquarium in Baltimore.

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Cathy Nodgaard

Cathy Nodgaard is the Associate Director for the Navy's Small Business Innovation Research program. She is assigned to the Transitions Department at the Office of Naval Research where she is also responsible for the program management and execution of the Office of Naval Research's SBIR program. Prior to this position she served as the Chief Technology Officer for PEO Expeditionary Warfare and was the Navy's program manager for the Dual Use Science & Technology project and the Commercial Operations and Support Savings Initiative. Prior to joining the Office of Naval Research, Ms. Nodgaard was the Program Manager for the Small Business Innovation Research and Independent Research and Development projects at the Naval Air Systems Command.

Elissa (Lisa) I. Sobolewski

Elissa (Lisa) Sobolewski has over 20 years of experience in managing high risk, high payoff R&D initiatives funded by the Departments of Homeland Security, Commerce and Defense. Lisa joined DHS HSARPA in January 2006, and became the DHS SBIR/STTR Program Manager in July 2006. Prior to her joining DHS, she served seven years within the Department of Commerce, holding numerous positions at NIST in Gaithersburg, MD. While there, she was the Director of the Information Technology and Electronics Office (ITEO), within the Advanced Technology Program (ATP). From June 2002 – December 2005, Lisa served as the ATP Deputy Director (acting) and had responsibility for the day-to-day operations of the Program.

Prior to joining ATP, Lisa served as a Program Manager at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) (February 1989 – June 1998) and was responsible for the RF and microwave programs. She managed the Microwave and Millimeter Wave Front End Technology Program (MAFET), with overall program management responsibility for MAFET Thrust 1 (MAFET Design Environment) and MAFET Thrust 2 (Technology/Component Development). Lisa also managed the circuit architectures, power management, and applications portion of the Low Power Electronics Program. From 1989 - 1994, she was the Deputy Program Manager for the Microwave and Millimeter Wave Monolithic Integrated Circuits (MIMIC) Program. Lisa also co-managed the High Density Microwave Packaging (HDMP) Program. In addition, she also had responsibility for six Technology Reinvestment Programs (TRP) in the areas of: advanced technologies for wireless communications and sensors for intelligent vehicles; passive millimeter wave camera for enhanced all-weather vision; manufacturing processes for thin multi-layer flat panel antennas; computer aided earth moving using differential global positioning satellites; automotive collision avoidance systems; and agile beam active transmit phased arrays.

From 1984 – 1989, Lisa held positions at the David Taylor Naval Ship Research and Development Center and at the Defense Logistics Agency (Department of Defense Technology Analysis Office). From 1979 – 1984, she worked for McDonnell Douglas Astronautics Company (Engineering Services), on various government contracts supporting the U.S. Marine Corps.

Lisa is a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) and a member of the IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Mathematics from Duquesne University, and an MBA from George Mason University. Lisa has been an invited speaker at many technical conferences and lectured at NATO's Advanced Study Institute in Erice, Italy. In 2003, she and several of her colleagues from DARPA and Northrop Grumman were inducted into the Space Technology Hall of Fame for their efforts in transforming monolithic microwave integrated circuit technology developed for space applications into products that help improve the quality of life on earth.

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Charles H. Griffin

Mr. Charles "Chuck" Griffin has been a part of the NASA Technology Programs & Commercialization Office for the past nine years where he is currently the SBIR/STTR Program Manager. He has served in the SBIR/STTR Program for the past four and a half years. He is responsible for integrating the Kennedy Space Center R & D capabilities to the needs of the NASA Mission Directorates into the SBIR/STTR Program, establishing schedules for the proposal reviews, coordinating rankings and Center-wide recommendations for proposal selections, providing oversight of contract performance, and promoting the continuation of SBIR/STTR funded projects to Phase III.

Also, consistent with his duties as KSC SBIR/STTR Program Manager, Mr. Griffin serves as the KSC Small Business Technical Advisor. This assignment is an appointment by the Associate Administrator for Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and the KSC Center Director. In this role Mr. Griffin serves as technical advisor to small businesses seeking opportunities for research and development, as well as technical support, among the KSC NASA and prime contractor organizations.

Mr. Griffin has experience with successfully transferring technology to industry due to his prior role as a NASA Licensing Agent negotiating licensing agreements on intellectual property. Mr. Griffin has 34 years with NASA at the John F. Kennedy Space and has held numerous positions within the Design Engineering Directorate. He is the recipient of many awards including the Exceptional Engineering Achievement Medal from NASA Headquarters and the Silver Snoopy Award from the Astronaut Corp.

Mr. Griffin is a graduate of the University of Central Florida with a B.S. in Electrical Engineering. He was born in Grove City, PA and resides in Chuluota, Florida. He and his wife Judy have three daughters with the oldest having just completed a master's degree and the other two pursuing B.S. degrees.

Charles H. Griffin SBIR/STTR Program Manager John F. Kennedy Space Center

E. James Chern (Jim)

Dr. E. James Chern has been the NASA Goddard Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer (SBIR/STTR) Program Manager since 1997. He assures the SBIR/STTR program is aligned with Goddard mission technology needs and develops commercial products. He leads Goddard's SBIR/STTR efforts in solicitation development, proposal evaluation, contract monitoring, technology utilization, and outreach activities. Dr. Chern and his support team also document success stories to capture government utilization and commercial applications.

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Helen Stinson

Helen Stinson manages the Small Business Technology Transfer Program at MSFC and has been working in the Technology Transfer Office for 14 years.

A 22-year NASA veteran, Stinson's tenure at Marshall has included engineering roles in the Structural Analysis division of the Structures and Dynamics Laboratory, where she assisted in the development and analysis of the Space Shuttle Main Engine's alternate turbopump and Spacelab payloads.

Stinson, who holds a materials engineering degree from the University of Alabama in Birmingham, has earned numerous NASA awards, including the Exceptional Service Medal. She was inducted into the U.S. Space Foundation's Space Technology Hall of Fame in March 2000. She serves as president of the North Alabama chapter of the Society of Women Engineers. She is married with 2 children ages 3 and 12.

Joseph D. Henebury

Mr. Henebury has many years of experience in transportation and logistics outreach programs such as the Technology Reinvestment Program (TRP) and the University Transportation Centers (UTC) Program. Mr. Henebury has also been involved in research and development initiatives for the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center's Office of University Research, Technology Innovation, and Program Coordination.

Prior to 1989, Mr. Henebury conducted technical program coordination, reviewed the Executive Branch Federal Budget cycle, and conducted all budget activities for major Volpe Center sponsors such as the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and prepared all budget materials for the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Office of the Secretary of Transportation for Congressional review.

Joseph D. Henebury is currently the DOT SBIR Program Director and is located at the DOT's Volpe National Transportation Systems Center

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M. Connie Jacobs

Ms. Jacobs is the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR), Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program Manager, and Industrial Liaison Officer at DARPA. She has been involved in the SBIR program since its inception in 1982. She manages DARPA's \$75M SBIR/STTR programs. Ms. Jacobs represents DARPA and the DoD at a multitude of Small Business Conferences. She conducts SBIR and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) training sessions for Historically Black Colleges and Minority Institutes (HBCU/MI's), Small Business Development Centers, and laboratories included in the Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC). Ms. Jacobs has 41 years of Federal experience in Industrial Liaison activities.

M. Connie Jacobs
SBIR/STTR Program Manager
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Stephen J. Guilfoos

Education:

- BS in Aeronautical and Astronautical Engineering, 1970, the Ohio State University (Texnikoi Honorary and Triangle Fraternity)
- MS in Logistics Management, 1982, the Air Force Institute of Technology (Sigma Iota Epsilon Honorary)

Mr. Guilfoos is a Certified Acquisition Professional in Systems Planning, Research, and Development & Engineering (Level 3); in Acquisition Logistics (level 3); and in Program Management (Level 2).

Mr. Guilfoos has over 35 years experience with the USAF. He has worked the Aircraft Structural Integrity Program on the A-7, F-4, and F-5 weapon systems. He managed the Air Force's Logistics Needs Program from 1982 until 1988 and then the Air Force's TechTIP program until 1992. In 1992 he was the leader of the AFMC Process Action Team that developed the present day AFMC technology transfer process and managed the AF Technology Transfer Program. In Feb 99, Mr. Guilfoos was selected to manage the Air Force Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and the Small Business Technology Transfer Research (STTR) programs.

Mr. Guilfoos has authored many technical papers and articles, including "Bashing the Technology Insertion Barriers", which won the Most Significant Article Award in the Spring 1989 issue of the Air Force Journal of Logistics.

Mr. Guilfoos has received many awards and recognitions including the 1991 Society of Logistics Engineers' Field Award in Logistics Engineering. The Air Force Association named him the Outstanding Civilian Manager of the Year at Wright-Patterson AFB in 1986. In 1997, he received the AF Exemplary Service Medal for his work in technology transfer. In 1998, he was runner-up as Federal Employee of the Year in the greater Dayton metropolitan area. In 2004, Mr Guilfoos earned the AF Meritorious Civilian Service Medal for his work in SBIR and STTR.

Stephen J. Guilfoos AF SBIR/STTR Program Manager

Terry Payne, Ph.D., P.E.

Terry is Economic Development Manager at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL), the country's largest multi-program Department of Energy science laboratory. In his present role, Terry is responsible for enabling the utilization of the research resources at ORNL for economic development purposes. Via utilization of ORNL technologies and technical capabilities, Terry seeks to assist in the start-up of new businesses, in market expansion for existing businesses, and in solving technical problems that threaten a company's profitability. Terry has specifically been assigned the responsibility of enabling companies in the Tri-Cities region to benefit from ORNL.

Terry received B.S. and M.S. degrees in industrial engineering, and, earned his Ph.D. degree in strategic management of technology from the University of Tennessee. The title of his dissertation was The Strategic Importance and Effectiveness of Key Decision Criteria in the Selection of Research Areas. Terry is a registered professional engineer in the State of Tennessee. His career, all spent at Oak Ridge, includes positions in reliability engineering, systems engineering, project and program management.

Terry is:

President of the Roane County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors
President of the East Tennessee Alzheimer's Association Board of Directors
A member of the Northeast Tennessee Technology Council Board of Directors, and,
A current candidate of the National Alzheimer's association Board of Directors
A member of the National Society of Professional Engineers, the Institute of Industrial Engineers, the Knoxville Technical Society, the Association of University Technology Managers, et. al.

Terry has numerous technical publications in books, technical journals and conference proceedings. He also serves as an adjunct faculty member for various colleges in the East Tennessee region.

Terry and Lee Ann, his wife of 14 years, live in Knoxville, Tennessee. They have two daughters, Rachel age 12 and Hannah age 10.

Terry Payne, Ph.D., P.E. Department of Energy